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Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Jan Piotr **Jaremczuk** (Poland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 17 September 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 59th, 60th and 74th meetings, on 8 May and 2 June 2000. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/54/SR.59, 60 and 74).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General concerning the financial performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999 (A/54/721);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General containing the proposed budget for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/54/735);

(c) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/54/841 and Add.5).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.63

4. At the 74th meeting, on 2 June, the representative of Poland, Rapporteur of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on this item, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia" (A/C.5/54/L.63).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.63 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 854 (1993) of 6 August 1993, by which the Council approved the deployment of an advance team of up to ten United Nations military observers for a period of three months and the incorporation of the advance team into a United Nations observer mission if such a mission was formally established by the Council,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1287 (2000) of 31 January 2000,

Recalling further its decision 48/475 A of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 53/232 of 8 June 1999,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Observer Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Observer Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

[1] A/54/721 and A/54/735.
[2] A/54/841 and Add.5.

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Observer Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia as at 30 April 2000, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 11.6 million United States dollars, representing 10 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Observer Mission to the period ending 30 June 2000, notes that some 20 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

3. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full and on time;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Observer Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 of 15 October 1997;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

[3] A/54/841/Add.5.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Observer Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

11. *Decides,* as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the additional amount of 290,200 dollars gross (485,200 dollars net) already appropriated by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/232 for the period ending 30 June 1998 among Member States, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456 to 54/458 of 23 December 1999, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1998, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997;

12. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 11 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 195,000 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period ending 30 June 1998;

13. *Decides further* to appropriate the amount of 1,076,720 dollars gross (1,073,320 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period ending 30 June 1999, in addition to the amount of 19,439,280 dollars gross (18,452,580 dollars net) already appropriated under the terms of General Assembly resolution 52/242 of 26 June 1998 and inclusive of the amount of 1,076,720 dollars gross (1,073,320 dollars net) from the amount of 1,534,400 dollars gross (1,426,600 dollars net) authorized by the Advisory Committee under the terms of section IV of Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994;

14. *Decides,* as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 1,076,720 dollars gross (1,073,320 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period ending 30 June 1999, in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1999, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A of 22 December 1997 and 54/237 A of 23 December 1999;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 3,400 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period ending 30 June 1999;

16. *Decides further* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia the amount of 30,048,197 dollars gross (28,295,699 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, inclusive of the amount of 1,425,532 dollars

gross (1,206,299 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the amount of 222,865 dollars gross (198,300 dollars net) for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

17. *Decides,* as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 2,504,016 dollars gross (2,357,975 dollars net) for the period from 1 to 31 July 2000 in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A;

18. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 146,041 dollars approved for the Observer Mission for the period from 1 to 31 July 2000;

19. *Decides further,* as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 27,544,181 dollars gross (25,937,724 dollars net) for the period from 1 August 2000 to 30 June 2001, at a monthly rate of 2,504,016 dollars gross (2,357,975 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2000, as set out in its resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A, and for the year 2001,[4] subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Observer Mission beyond 31 July 2000;

20. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 19 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,606,457 dollars approved for the period from 1 August 2000 to 30 June 2001;

21. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

22. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Observer Mission;

23. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Observer Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia".

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[4] To be adopted by the General Assembly.